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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 27 | Min 20 | Humidity 76% Light rain Sensex 80,559 | Nifty 24,565 | Gold 99,040 | Silver 1,10,387 | Dollar 87.24 | Euro 100.84 | GBP 115.79

CLOCKING IN

As companies try out staggered timings, is traffic logjam along 18-km stretch of IT corridor showing signs of easing?

PAGE 5

JUST 1

In pockets of city, time seems to stand still as even today Rs 1 can get you things that are vital and a part of daily life

PAGE 7

Despite a High Court ruling barring construction activities between 10 pm and 6 am, despite repeated police complaints, despite warnings, builders continue to make racket at night across different areas in city

NO REST FOR THE WEARY

Heavy vehicles carrying material zip across with horns blaring in dead of night

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Late night on Thursday (July 31), Ramesh*, a terminally ill senior citizen living with his ailing, old mother in Whitefield, woke up to the loud sound of machines whirring and jackhammers breaking concrete. The 65-year-old, who is on a high-dose therapy for his ailment, soon realised the unbearable noise was coming from a construction site in the neighbourhood.

Ramesh called 112 at 11.30 pm and within a jiffy, police officials were at the spot. They stopped the activities and left. However, to Ramesh's utter dismay, it all started again at around 4 am, forcing him to dial 112 twice in one night.

"I have approached the police on multiple occasions in the past about loud noises from a construction site on Borewell Road during odd hours. Police respond and stop the work, only for it to resume shortly after they leave the spot. There are many senior citizens living on the Outer Circle Road and in the surrounding area in Whitefield enduring this nuisance for at least six to seven months, on and off," says Ramesh.

Nighttime construction activities during prohibited hours with noise levels far exceeding permissible limits have become

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

PAGE 3: SOMETHING IN THE AIR

"The noise or dust pollution from a construction site is a public nuisance, and if it continues after police warnings, legal action can be pursued, which is criminal and effective. However, the state pollution control board plays an important role in such complaints

—Environmental law expert

FOR THE ROWDY RECORD

Police conduct raids, monitor movement of rowdies; bail to 196 cancelled till July this year to keep crime in check

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Bengaluru police have taken strict action against rowdy sheeters to curb rising criminal activities. Officials have cancelled bail for 196 such individuals in the city as a preventive measure. The decision comes amid concerns that many of these rowdy elements, once released on bail, tend to return to their criminal activities.

According to police data, between January and July this year, bail was cancelled for 196 rowdy sheeters. Of these, 23 individuals lost their bail for failing to appear in court after a proclamation was issued under Section 82 of the CrPC (Act of 2023). Another 159 had their bail revoked either because they did not show up in court or failed to follow bail or bond conditions.

Additionally, 11 bails were cancelled under the Goonda Act and 3 under the Karnataka Control of Organised Crimes Act (KCOCA). These individuals were previously booked under various cases, including assault, extortion, threats, illegal arms possession, and involvement in gang fights. The authorities fear that if they are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Melodic harmony

A full-day celebration of world music featuring stellar performances by maestros like the Bangalore Brothers, Ramana Balachandran, and Arjun Kumar, hosted by the Samatva Foundation. **Where: Samskrita Bharati, Aksharam Auditorium; When: August 3, 9 am–9 pm**

02 Conveying art

Explore the lives and works of iconic Indian artists through a curated screening of documentaries, including Conversation with Shri Mario Miranda (Doordarshan Goa), Krishna Reddy Documentary and SH Raza. **Where: Auditorium, National Gallery of Modern Art, #49, Manikyavelu Mansion; When: August 3, 3 pm**

03 Cultural celebration

A series of music concerts featuring leading artists like T M Krishna, Sudha Raghunathan, Abhishek Raghuram, Vishaka Hari and more, in celebration of Gokulashtami. Proceeds support vocational training for underprivileged youth through Unnati Foundation. **Where: Odukathur Mutt, Ulsoor; When: August 2–24, 6 pm**

04 Rakhi delights

Celebrate Raksha Bandhan with limited-edition cupcakes from Magnolia Bakery, available in festive vanilla and chocolate flavours. Handcrafted and beautifully themed, these sweet treats are perfect for gifting or enjoying with siblings. **Where: Magnolia Bakery outlets across Bangalore; When: August 4–10**

05 Poetry evening

Celebrate poetry with featured poet Arvind Padmanabhan at India's longest-running poetry event, hosted by Urban Solace – Café for the Soul. **Where: Urban Solace; When: August 5, 7.30 pm–9 pm**

Spare the snare? All not on board forest dept plan

With citizens joining anti-snare patrols around Bengaluru, experts stress trained personnel should handle such sensitive tasks, urging strict regulation, permissions

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After a leopard's death in Anekal, Forest Department steps up anti-snare drive amid concerns over citizen involvement

Stepping up wildlife protection, the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) will conduct an anti-snare drive on August 3 in forest patches in and around Bengaluru. The day-long initiative will cover Turahalli (both minor and state forest), Kumbaranahalli, Boothanahalli Mandoor in Anekal, and two spots in Jyotipura.

Involving citizen participation, the drive aims to save wildlife and send a strong message that these vulnerable forest habitats are being monitored and are under constant surveillance. "The idea is to raise awareness about wildlife conservation among citizens. This drive also follows an incident last week in Anekal, where a leopard tragically died after being caught in snares," said Ravindra Kumar, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Urban.

KFD's last anti-snare drive in the Sulikere forest path led to the discovery of two snares kept to trap birds. However, some wildlife conservationists have expressed concerns about involving citizens, suggesting that such drives should be carried out exclusively by trained Forest Department personnel to ensure better safety and minimise disturbance to wildlife during the operation.

They emphasise that it is the responsibility of forest guards and the deputy range forest officer to detect traps at least once a fortnight. If snares are discovered or animals are found trapped, it indicates a lapse in duty by the respective officials. In such cases, the forest guards or the deputy range forest officer assigned to that area must be held directly accountable. Regular patrolling and timely detection are crucial to ensure the safety and protection of wildlife in these regions. If the anti-snare drive in the Bengaluru Urban division involves citizens, officials from the concerned division must seek prior permission from the Chief Wildlife Warden (CWW), they suggest.

Citizen activities in wildlife habitats require prior CWW approval. Experts say trained staff from other divisions could have supported the drive instead

"For any activity involving citizens in forest areas inhabited by wildlife, prior permission from the Chief Wildlife Warden (CWW) is mandatory. The Forest Department could have brought in trained staff from other divisions or ranges to support the effort. Allowing public participation may set a precedent, prompting NGOs and citizens to seek involvement in similar drives elsewhere. While inclusion is welcome, such participation must be strictly regulated," said a wildlife conservationist. According to KFD officials, permission from CWW is not required as the locations proposed for conducting the drive are not wildlife areas.

"We are conducting the drive to pre-empt poaching efforts. Involving citizens does not require permission from CWW in this case, as it is not a wildlife area. Moreover, the drive is being conducted only in vulnerable areas that are susceptible to intrusion. We will check the spots with a high probability of snares to catch small game," said Kumar.

Namma Metro delivers life-saving organ

In a historic moment for Bengaluru and its public transport system, Namma Metro became a silent lifesaver on August 1, enabling first-ever human organ transport via metro in the city. The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) confirmed that a donated liver was swiftly moved from Vydehi Hospital, Whitefield, to Sparsh Hospital, Rajarajeshwarinagar—using not just road, but also the city's Purple Line for faster transit.

Metro ride with a mission

The meticulously planned operation began at 8.38 pm when an ambulance carrying the liver, accompanied by doctor and seven medical staff, arrived at Whitefield Metro. An Assistant Security Officer (ASO) and metro staff received the team, guiding them through documentation and security checks under BMRCL's emergency protocols. Just four minutes later, the metro departed. The organ travelled east to west across the city, covering 37 km in just over an hour, and reached Rajarajeshwarinagar by 9.48 pm. Another ASO ensured a swift handover to an ambulance, which rushed to Sparsh Hospital, where the transplant was successfully completed.

Second metro organ transport in India

While this marks a first for Bengaluru, only the second time in India that a metro rail network was used to transport a human organ. The precedent was set by Hyderabad Metro Rail on January 18, when a green corridor was created for a heart transplant between LB Nagar and Lakdikapul. In this latest mission, BMRCL followed the Joint Procedure Order and MoHUA guidelines, ensuring full compliance and efficiency throughout the operation.

— BMB

Retired bank staffers seek pension revision

About 600 retired bank officers from the Coordination of Bank Pensioners and Retirees Organisations (CBPRO) staged a protest at Freedom Park on Saturday. The members observed a one-day hunger strike demanding long-pending pension revision, which has been due since 1993. Other demands included scrapping the new pension scheme and reinstating the old one, enhancement of the health insurance scheme, and inclusion of special pay components while calculating the basic pension to ensure fair and just treatment.

— BMB

More kids abandoned, few find a home

The number of orphaned and abandoned children admitted annually into government-run and private childcare institutions in Karnataka is steadily rising. Currently, over 19,000–20,000 children are housed across 711 childcare centres, including 105 government-run balamandiras, according to Arundhati, Programme Officer at the Directorate of Child Protection. Of these, only around 350 children are eligible for adoption, while the rest remain without family support or legal guardianship—a troubling trend that, she warned, poses a challenge to a developing society.

Speaking at a state-level consultation on family-based care organised by the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Arundhati stressed that institutionalising children should be the last resort, as per the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2025. However, due to limited awareness and poor implementation, many children are being directly placed in institutions instead of being reunited with families or placed under foster or adoptive care. While more prospective parents are coming forward to adopt, there is little interest in adopting children over six years of age, and almost none for children with disabilities. She also highlighted the urgent need for a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to guide post-adoption care after children turn 18.

— BMB

Bengaluru shines as global tech hub

Bengaluru has strengthened its status as a global technology hub, with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah stating that the city hosts over 18,000 startups, including more than 50 unicorns, and ranks among the top 15 startup ecosystems worldwide. It also accounts for 40% of India's Global Capability Centres, attracting major R&D investments from multinational giants such as Bosch, Intel, SAP, and several others.

Karnataka, with a Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of $337 billion, ranks as India's fourth-largest economy, contributing nearly 9% to the national GDP. The state's $64 billion in IT exports in 2024 represent nearly one-third of India's total. Through the Beyond Bengaluru initiative, the government is driving innovation and investment into cities like Mysuru, Mangaluru, Hubballi-Dharwad, and Belagavi to promote regional growth.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah added that Karnataka is further strengthening its tech ecosystem by skilling over 1 lakh youth in AI, cybersecurity, and biotechnology under the NIPUNA Karnataka program, in partnership with global players like Microsoft and Accenture. — BMB

Special Operation nets drug peddlers

Three people were arrested in a special police operation that was conducted on Saturday across 13 police station limits in Bengaluru City North Division, targeting drug peddlers, property offenders, and suspicious individuals. The drive, led by senior officers, aimed to check the activities and backgrounds of known offenders.

During the surprise operation, 180 individuals were interrogated regarding their movements, current employment, and legal status. Police checked for pending warrants and absconding accused. Three drug peddling cases were registered, and three accused—Mohammad Khasim, Puneeth, and Sunil Naik, were taken into custody. A total of 2 kg 450 grams of ganja was seized from Malleswaram, RT Nagar, and Mahalakshmi Layout limits. Additionally, four were booked for drug consumption.

Five proclaimed offenders and two warrant absconders were traced. Action under the Karnataka Police Act was initiated against 18 individuals, while 10 others were booked under the COPTA Act for tobacco violations. In total, 10 new cases were registered. **BMB**

CRIME FILES

Actor Rakshak's car rams bike

A FIR was registered against Kannada actor Rakshak after a youth sustained serious injuries after his bike was allegedly hit by a car driven by near Manyata Tech Park on Friday morning.

The victim, identified as Venugopal, who hails from Sidlaghatta and is a resident of Bengaluru, was on his way to actor Shivarajkumar's house with his friend Anusha around 11.30 am when the accident occurred. According to eyewitnesses, Rakshak's SUV allegedly collided with Venugopal's bike, reportedly due to reckless driving.

Venugopal suffered a fracture in his left leg and injuries to his fingers. The actor rushed both Venugopal and Anusha to a private hospital in Hebbal. While Rakshak initially offered to bear the treatment expenses, a disagreement ensued during settlement discussions. Rakshak allegedly claimed that the medical costs were too high for him to cover. Following the incident, Anusha lodged a formal complaint against the actor at the Hennur Traffic Police Station. **BMB**

Threats to Ramya: 2 accused arrested

The Cyber Crime Police have arrested two individuals for posting obscene, threatening, and misogynistic comments against actress and former Member of Parliament Ramya on social media. The arrests come in response to a complaint filed by the actress on July 28, after she received rape, murder threats and vulgar abuse following her social media post.

Ramya had shared news reports on her Instagram and X accounts regarding the Supreme Court's observation in the Renuka Swamy murder case, which were widely reported on July 24. With over 1.1 million followers, her post drew considerable attention and disturbing backlash.

Several users, displeased by her statements, posted objectionable and threatening messages. Upon receiving her complaint, the Bengaluru City Cyber Crime Police registered a case and tracked down multiple abusive accounts. Two of the accused have been arrested and have confessed during interrogation.

Police said information has been gathered on 11 others involved in similar acts, and legal proceedings will follow. In all, over 48 individuals have posted derogatory content targeting Ramya, and efforts are underway to identify and locate the remaining. **BMB**

YOUR VOICE, OUR PAPER

BANGALORE MIRROR has always been the citizens' voice, but we plan to go one step further and come to your areas to amplify your issues further.

Before we kick off this event, we met various residents welfare associations in Bengaluru East. We intend to shine the light on infrastructure-related issues of localities so that the authorities cannot look away anymore.

On Saturday, our team met the members of Eshanya Bengalurina Nagarikara Kalyana Mahavedike, a registered federation of 25+ residents welfare associations at Milton Street Park. We have brainstormed to chalk out a route map of BM's journey.

Watch this space for the exact spots BM will be visiting
Save the date: August 10
When: 9.30 am onwards
Where: In and around Richard's Town to Kammanahalli

Let us not wait for change,
Let us make it happen, folks. Be there...

No change in the air, city continues to breathe uneasy

Air Quality Index shows no improvement over last 5 years; experts call out absence of mitigation measures

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The Annual Air Quality Index (AQI) of Bengaluru shows there has been no improvement in the city's air over the last five years.

The AQI of the city so far this year is 86, the same value recorded in 2020. The AQI recorded values were 84 in 2021, 87 in 2022, 78 in 2023, and 73 in 2024. The data shows that the overall annual percentage change has been zero over the last five years.

Over the given period, Bengaluru was most polluted in February 2020 with an AQI of 131 and least polluted in June 2023 with an AQI of 33.

While the air quality has not improved much, nearly 60% of the total fund released by the Central ministry under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) has been utilised so far.

Experts say that in the absence of mitigation measures, vehicular emissions, industrial activities, construction and road dust, and waste burning are some factors that continue to contribute to air pollution.

"The transport sector is the biggest contributor towards the city's air pollution. There are no mitigation strategies to bring down the number of private vehicles on the city's roads. The impetus should be on improvement of the public transport system," said Professor TV Ramachandra, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science.

Mass transit lags

Experts say that while the ongoing mass transit system projects, such as suburban rail and Namma Metro, are progressing at a snail's pace, a plethora of developmental work, including road widening, and new road infrastructure projects promoting private modes of transport have been announced.

"New policies discouraging ownership of private vehicles should be brought in and implemented strictly. All mass transit projects are progressing at a slow pace, which should be accelerated. Moreover, decision makers should understand that road widening is not practical and sustainable in Bengaluru's context. Such projects will only worsen the city's AQI," said Dr BC Nagaraja, professor and head, Department of Environment Science, Bangalore University.

Experts also point to construction sites not following rules under C&D Waste Management, aggravating the situation.

According to the Central Pollution Control Board's guidelines on dust mitigation, various measures should be taken on construction sites to mitigate dust arising due to activities such as loading/unloading operations, vehicle movement, machinery used in C & D operations, etc. The rules mandate dust abatement measures in handling C&D material, including sprinkling water from nozzles to suppress dust re-suspension at the site, and C&D wastes or construction material, whether stored or transported, to be preferably covered.

"I have not come across any construction site in the city, including BBMP and BMRCL sites, that uses water to make the dust settle. None of the sites use the green screen to prevent dust pollution," said a air quality expert.

Wife, son-in-law murder man over domestic violence

A 46-year-old man was allegedly murdered in the Kadugodi Police Station limits by his wife and son-in-law, with the help of a minor, following years of domestic abuse.

The deceased, identified as Babu, was known to be a habitual drunkard, who frequently harassed his wife Muniratnamma (40) and children. According to police, on the night of June 26, Babu returned home in an inebriated state and began quarreling with his wife. It was then that Muniratnamma, her son-in-law Ramamurthy (28), and a minor girl allegedly executed a plan to kill him.

The trio reportedly attacked Babu with a machete and a ragi ball stick, leading to his death. To destroy evidence, the accused transported the body in an ambulance to Kolar during the early hours of the next day, where they poured petrol and set it ablaze.

Following an investigation, the Kadugodi Police registered a case under Sections 103(1), 238, and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Muniratnamma and Ramamurthy have been taken into custody, while efforts are underway to apprehend the minor involved. Police confirmed that the murder was motivated by prolonged domestic violence and threats made by the victim. **BMB**

E-khata data entry error lands owner huge tax bill

Despite week-long training, BangaloreOne staff misentered property details, leaving homeowners with hefty tax bills and no way to file objections online

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PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) launched e-khata services at BangaloreOne centers across the city on November 11, 2024. Then BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath announced the launch following a week-long training for BangaloreOne staff. The initiative aimed to ease difficulties faced by property owners and protect them from exploitation by private cyber centres, which often charged up to ₹5,000 for e-khata-related services that are now accessible at government centres at standard, regulated fees.

If the plight of a flat owner is any indication, it seems that property owners have to be careful and have to cross check the details of property before uploading the relevant documents at BangaloreOne centers.

Sudhamani N, like many property owners in the city, took the BBMP Chief Commissioner's advice seriously and visited the BangaloreOne center at Jeevan Bhima Nagar in April to upload documents for the flat owned by her husband, G Pankajakshan. Although the staff promptly collected the specified fees, they uploaded the documents hastily, failing to verify the difference between the built-up area and the designated car parking space.

As per the sale deed, the built-up area is 1366 sq ft and the car parking area is 180 sq ft. However, the staff at BangaloreOne, despite undergoing a week-long training as claimed by the BBMP Chief Commissioner, mistakenly entered both the built-up area and car parking area as 1366 sq ft, resulting in an inaccurate property record.

The oversight or negligence of the staff at the BangaloreOne centre has made the BBMP Assistant Revenue Officer (Begur Sub Division) issue a show-cause notice to Pankajakshan to pay Rs 28,342 towards the difference in property tax per year from the 2020-21. The total amount of the difference in property tax for five years is estimated to be around Rs 1.40 lakh.

Expressing concern over the huge amount fixed as the difference in property tax, Sudhamani N, said that wrong entries of property details were made while applying for e-khata online, which was done through Bangalore One centre. "The sale deed shows the right dimensions of the property and built-up area and parking area. The BBMP, without looking into the sale deed, has considered the entries made in it. The BBMP says that property dimensions are falsely declared to evade the tax. I feel that is not right. If the concerned authorities could look into the sale deed and take a call, much of the problem would be solved," said Sudhamani.

She said that the show-cause notice issued on July 11, 2025 has fixed the 15-day deadline to file objections but the BBMP website is not functioning. "Dear All, the system is under technical upgrade. Kindly try again on 29/07/2025. Inconvenience is regretted. BBMP", the message on the BBMP website read.

She said the 15-day deadline fixed by the BBMP ended on July 26. "I tried to open the link provided in the show-cause notice but it is not working. Who is responsible for our problems – wrong entry of details at the BangaloreOne centre and the defunct website?" she asked.

Yatish M, a resident of Rajajinagar, said that many property owners have been facing problems getting e-khata certificates online. "It is the responsibility of the BBMP authorities to provide proper training for the BangaloreOne employees and also ensure the BBMP website functions without any glitches," said Yatish.

> **"I tried to open the link provided in the show-cause notice but it is not working. Who is responsible for our problems – wrong entry of details at the BangaloreOne centre and the defunct website** – Sudhamani N, Resident

However, BBMP Revenue Officer (Begur Sub Division) Narayanappa said that he has received many complaints from property owners. "Show-cause notices were issued for those who made wrong entries while uploading the property documents. The property owners, who received show-cause notices, have to meet the Assistant Revenue Officers of the respective areas," the revenue officer said.

CMRS clears Metro's Yellow Line stretch

With the Commissioner of Metro Railway Safety (CMRS) granting clearance, Bengaluru's much-anticipated Yellow Line Metro—connecting the tech corridor of Electronic City—is poised for inauguration, likely on August 15, according to sources. The countdown for launching passenger services on this key corridor has officially begun.

The 19.15-kilometre Yellow Line stretches from RV Road to Bommasandra, passing through Silk Board and Electronic City. It received the green signal from CMRS following a recent inspection led by Commissioner A M Chowdhury. The approval includes a few standard conditions, which the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) is currently reviewing and addressing. Initially, three trains will operate along the stretch at intervals of 20 to 25 minutes, serving 16 stations. A fourth train, expected to arrive soon in Bengaluru, will undergo mandatory safety trials before being added to the service fleet.

The state and central governments have been formally approached to finalise the inauguration date. BMRCL has indicated readiness to begin operations once the date is confirmed. Sources say Prime Minister Narendra Modi may inaugurate the Yellow Line on August 15, officially marking the launch of passenger services.

Though operations will start on a limited scale, full-fledged services are expected by next year, significantly improving commute times across South Bengaluru's IT and BT corridor, and easing traffic congestion. **— BMB**

Transport Department goes for green

To curb pollution and encourage eco-friendly practices, the Karnataka Transport Department is taking firm steps — from cracking down on polluting vehicles to actively promoting the use of electric vehicles. As part of a new initiative, the department is installing solar panels across 14 of its buildings in districts like Ramanagara, Chikkaballapur, Udupi, and Mysuru, aiming to replace conventional power with renewable energy. This comes as Bengaluru alone accounts for over 1.2 crore of the 3.3 crore vehicles registered in the state, with more than 25% of pollution attributed to vehicular emissions.

The department currently uses around 3,000 kilowatts of electricity monthly across 35 buildings and aims to generate 400 kilowatts of solar power in the first phase. The solar push is being funded through the Green Cess collected during vehicle registrations. Of the ₹420 crore collected over the past five years, only ₹51 crore has been used for green initiatives so far — drawing criticism. Now, the department is determined to channel the cess into visible, impactful projects to reduce carbon footprint and set a model for other departments. **— BMB**

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Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Cable fixed

Hudson Circle

After a BM reporter flagged the exposed electric cable on the skywalk outside the BBMP headquarters, BESCOM acted swiftly to resolve the issue.

Dengue threat

Banjara Layout

Residents of Sri Sai Varshini Vilas Road in Banjara Layout, Kalkere, are urging BBMP and BWSSB to halt sewage discharge into stormwater drains and remove accumulated debris. The stagnation has become a mosquito breeding ground, heightening fears of dengue outbreaks.

Safety restored

RR Nagar

After a reader highlighted an open electrical box in Rajarajeshwari Nagar through Bangalore Mirror, BESCOM acted swiftly and secured the hazard, ensuring public safety.

BEL road closure sparks outrage

Residents have urged Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) to reopen the road from Nagaland Circle to BEL Market, which has remained closed for months under the guise of development work. Citizens from Doddabommasandra, Ramachandrapura, Vidyaranyapura, Kodigehalli, and Kuvempunagar say this route is crucial for daily travel, and its prolonged closure has led to major commuting difficulties. With rising traffic congestion in the Byatarayanapura constituency, many accused local MLA and Minister Krishna Byre Gowda of ignoring their appeals. Frustrated by the lack of response, residents approached BEL directly, demanding that the road be reopened immediately to ease travel woes and reduce the burden on other congested routes. **–BMB**

Drive drunk, lose insurance claim

The Karnataka High Court has ruled that insurance companies should not be held liable for compensating victims in road accidents caused by drunk drivers, calling such acts a "social crime." Justice M Umesh Adiga, hearing an appeal by Oriental Insurance Company, criticised the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal (MACT) for overlooking the driver's intoxicated state in a 2014 Domlur accident case, where 2.59 lakh was awarded to the victim. While upholding the compensation, the court clarified that the insurer can recover the amount from the vehicle owner. The court highlighted a disturbing trend of drunk driving becoming fashionable, warning that it endangers not only drivers but also pedestrians and other road users. It observed that making insurers pay in such cases indirectly encourages recklessness. Urging both the Centre and state governments to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, the court called for legal reforms and increased public awareness to curb drunk driving and protect road safety. **–BMB**

State govt tells SC it is ready for B'luru municipal body polls

The Karnataka government has informed the Supreme Court of its readiness to conduct municipal elections in Bengaluru following the completion of ward delimitation for five newly created municipal corporations. In an affidavit submitted on Friday, Urban Development Department Additional Chief Secretary Tushar Giri Nath stated that the government is fully prepared to hold elections once the court gives its nod. The matter will be heard by a Supreme Court bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and JB Pardiwala on Monday.

Under the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act, the state has carved Bengaluru into five distinct municipal corporations—Bengaluru Central, South, North, East, and West. A notification fixing the total number of wards at 225 has already been issued, with delimitation work scheduled to begin on August 3. Each corporation is expected to have around 100 wards. Public objections have been invited, and reservation details will be announced thereafter. The entire process is slated for completion by December 1.

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has been under bureaucratic rule since its elected council's term ended in September 2020, sparking legal battles over the delay. **–BMB**

Can staggered traffic save the day? Wait and watch

City police team up with IT firms to ease ORR gridlock by reshaping work hours and reviving pandemic-era mobility solutions for lasting urban relief

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As traffic congestion along the Outer Ring Road (ORR) spirals out of control, the Bengaluru Traffic Police have doubled down on a key question: Can staggered office timings bring real relief to the city's tech corridor? The answer may soon unfold, as police work with IT companies to shift away from rigid work schedules that currently overload the city's infrastructure during peak hours.

To ease the daily logjam along the 18-kilometre stretch between Central Silk Board Junction and KR Puram — a corridor home to over 500 IT-BT firms and nearly 10 lakh employees — the police have proposed a staggered timing model. Companies are being encouraged to adopt varied start and end times, instead of clustering around the peak 9.00 am to 10.00 am slot when traffic volumes swell.

Under the proposed model, firms would begin operations in phases, with some starting as early as 7.30 am, others at 8.30 or 9.30 am. Evening log-out times would also be staggered accordingly. The aim is to ease the immense pressure on ORR, which currently sees over eight lakh vehicles daily.

"This is not just a suggestion but a necessity to regain control over ORR traffic," a senior traffic police official said. Discussions with several company representatives are already underway, and the police hope to secure collective buy-in from the tech industry.

Initial responses have been mixed. While some firms have expressed willingness to experiment with flexible schedules, widespread adoption remains limited. Operational challenges, employee convenience, and coordination issues have been cited as reasons for reluctance. Traffic officials, however, insist that the success of the initiative depends on large-scale participation. Isolated implementation, they warn, will have little impact.

ORR corridor sees nearly 8 lakh vehicles daily, prompting urgent calls for flexible work schedules

> **"This is not just a suggestion but a necessity to regain control over ORR traffic**
>
> –Senior Traffic Police Official

To support this transition, the authorities are also planning complementary steps. These include introducing air-conditioned buses from key hubs to IT parks and the airport, reviving carpooling and bus pooling initiatives that had been paused due to policy constraints, and encouraging selective work-from-home days during adverse weather or major city events.

The model draws inspiration from the pandemic era, when remote work significantly reduced congestion along ORR. Authorities hope that reviving aspects of that system, even partially, will help mitigate the current traffic crisis.

Officials stress that this is not merely a logistical tweak but a behavioural change in how the city functions. With Bengaluru's tech sector growing rapidly and infrastructure still struggling to keep pace, staggered office timings could serve as a transitional solution until more robust systems are in place.

If successful, officials believe the initiative could become a template for urban mobility reforms across the city. "This could be a stepping stone to rethinking how Bengaluru moves," a senior official said. "We're not just managing traffic we're trying to reshape urban habits."

Yet another plea to halt Roerich Estate project

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A wildlife conservationist has urged the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) to intervene and halt the proposed Rs 99.2-crore eco-tourism and cultural hub at the historic Devika Rani-Roerich Estate located off Kanakapura Road, bordering the ecologically sensitive Bannerghatta Forest range.

In a recent letter addressed to the Ministry, conservationist Giridhar Kulkarni has requested that no clearance be granted for the project without the mandatory approval under the Forest Conservation Act (FCA), 1980. Kulkarni highlighted that the estate, which is home to several species including smooth-coated otters, chital, rusty-spotted cats, and muntjac, forms part of Bengaluru's last remaining green buffer and any form of ecotourism construction would severely impact its fragile ecosystem.

The Karnataka Tourism Department has aggressively pushed for the project in a recent high-level review meeting chaired by Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre, citing Bengaluru's need for nature-based recreational spaces and a nearing deadline for central funding.

However, in an earlier directive dated February 12, 2025, the MoEF&CC had already advised the state government not to proceed with the project without central clearance. The Ministry also directed the Additional Chief Secretary to conduct an inquiry based on a previous complaint filed by Kulkarni.

In his latest representation, Kulkarni emphasised that the proposed eco-tourism development violates the intent of the Roerich and Devikarani Roerich Estate (Acquisition and Transfer) Act, 1996. The Act mandates that the estate be managed by a trust to preserve its rich biodiversity, trees, art objects, and cultural heritage — with the specific aim of developing a public park and art museum, not commercial tourism infrastructure.

Opponents of the project argue that the planned constructions are permanent in nature and require prior environmental clearance under the FCA. The proposal, submitted by Karnataka to the Ministry of Finance and approved in November 2024, includes several such permanent structures, sparking concern among conservationists and legal experts.

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

GLEAMING LOTUS RETREAT

Our reader shares a radiant image of a blooming lotus pond at MS Engineering College, where vibrant pink petals gleam under the sun and lush green leaves frame the scene. This tranquil haven offers students a perfect spot for reflection and inspiration—an oasis of calm within campus life.

The picture was clicked by reader **Vijaykumar H K**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

Contaminated water crisis hits Bhuvaneshwari Nagar

Residents suffer health scares, rising costs, and official apathy as BWSSB fails to fix recurring water contamination crisis

A recurring nightmare has once again gripped the residents of Fifth Cross, 8th Main Road, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar (SBI Bank Road), in Ward No. 14 of the Dasarahalli Zone, as sewage water mixed with drinking water flowed into homes, leaving families reeling under both health concerns and financial burdens.

The residents squarely blame the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) for repeated negligence in maintaining underground pipelines. What began as slightly discoloured tap water quickly turned into a crisis, with foul-smelling sewage contaminating sumps, overhead tanks, and even entering bathrooms and kitchens.

"This is not a one-off incident," said a long-time resident. "It happens every few months. We've raised complaints with BWSSB officials several times, but all they do is apply temporary fixes. This time, the water smelled like a drain—it was disgusting. My children fell ill after drinking it." With no response or assistance from the authorities, desperate residents had to turn to private agencies to flush and disinfect their sumps and tanks. Each cleaning cost them ₹2,000 to ₹3,000. On top of that, they had to purchase tanker water for daily use, shelling out an additional ₹500 to ₹700 per delivery.

"This situation has burned a hole in our pockets," said another affected resident. "We spent nearly ₹6,000 in two days just to ensure basic hygiene and drinking water. Yet we are still unsure if the contamination has cleared. Why should we bear the cost of BWSSB's failure?"

The crisis has hit vulnerable groups the hardest. Elderly residents and young children have reportedly suffered from stomach infections, rashes, and frequent headaches, leading to further medical expenses. Some residents have had to resort to bottled water even for cooking. Mamata, a homemaker, shared her frustration: "We pay our water bills every month, and this is what we get in return—filthy water, rising costs, and no accountability. Our tank had to be cleaned three times. Even then, we didn't trust the tap water."

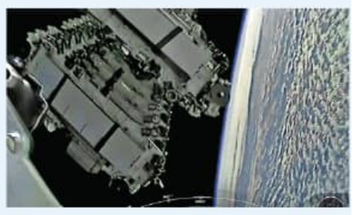
What angers residents the most is the recurring nature of the problem. Despite several complaints over the years, they say no long-term solution has been implemented. "We need a complete audit of the water and sewage pipelines," demanded a resident. "We want compensation for all that we've spent and immediate intervention from BBMP and BWSSB. If this continues, we're ready to escalate this or even stage a protest."

As the situation drags on, trust in the civic authorities continues to erode—one contaminated drop at a time.

— BMB

Residents have to spend huge sums on private cleaning due to inaction by water authorities

DID YOU KNOW?



China is ramping up efforts to counter Elon Musk's Starlink satellite network, viewing it as a serious extension of US military and intelligence capabilities. Government and military researchers have published numerous studies detailing strategies to disable or disrupt the system—ranging from space-based lasers and signal-tracking satellites to attacks on Starlink's extensive global supply chain. Their urgency intensified after Starlink proved instrumental to Ukraine's battlefield communications against Russia. Though Starlink doesn't operate in China, its satellites routinely pass over the country. Chinese scientists have modelled how the network could maintain 24/7 coverage over Beijing and other strategic regions like Taiwan. In response, they're exploring offensive and defensive countermeasures, including diplomatic efforts to limit Starlink's expansion. Concerns over Starlink's dominance extend beyond China. Some US allies question the risks of relying on a private company with deep defence ties and an unpredictable CEO. Still, Starlink's global presence keeps growing, with more than 8,000 satellites and operations in over 140 countries—fuelling a new era of orbital power struggles. — AP

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

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Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

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Government busts fake LinkedIn profiles of Health Ministry

PIB Fact Check warns against fake LinkedIn profiles, viral WhatsApp hoaxes, and false eviction claims involving senior government officials

The Centre on Tuesday debunked fake profiles impersonating the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on the professional networking site LinkedIn. Taking to the social media platform X, the Press and Information Bureau's (PIB) Fact Check team informed that the Ministry of Health does not have an account on LinkedIn. It also requested people to be careful of such fake accounts. The post also urged people to be alert and not to trust or interact with such accounts, as they may spread false information. "Is the Ministry of Health on LinkedIn? No! This LinkedIn profile is fake," PIB Fact Check posted on X.

At least three such accounts were identified by the PIB fact-check team for impersonating the Health Ministry. One of the fake accounts also had its location mentioned as Beijing, China, and had at least 32,000 followers. "The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (@MoHFW_INDIA) has NO official LinkedIn account. Stay alert. Always rely on official sources for verified information!" PIB Fact Check said.

Earlier, the PIB Fact Check has debunked a claim circulating on WhatsApp about a pan-India helpline number 104 titled "Blood on Call" for blood requirements. According to the PIB, this claim is misleading,

and the Government of India is not running any such scheme. The viral message, shared across multiple social media platforms and messaging apps, claimed that citizens could now dial 104 to request blood, which would be delivered within hours for a specified charge. Dismissing these claims, PIB Fact Check in a post on X said, "This claim is #misleading, GOI is not running any such scheme!! This number is used for various helpline services in some states."

PIB also attached a graphic of the viral message with a red "MISLEADING" stamp to prevent the spread of disinformation.

PIB warns against widespread social media misinformation

According to PIB Fact Check, while the number 104 may be active in some states for general health-related services, it is not associated with a central government initiative for blood supply. Meanwhile, on July 24, the PIB debunked any claims circulating on social media regarding the sealing of the official residence of former Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, saying that the former VP has not been asked to vacate his residence immediately. "It is being widely claimed on social media that the Vice President's official residence has been sealed and the former VP has been asked to vacate his residence immediately. These claims are Fake. Don't fall for misinformation. Always verify news from official sources before sharing it," the PIB fact check said on X. The post by PIB fact check urged the people "not to fall for misinformation" and always verify news from official sources. — Agencies

THE SUNDAY READ

Rs 1 can get even some things money can't buy...

In the age of digital wallet, ₹1 coin still buys you more than you think in Bengaluru

In a city where cappuccinos cost ₹200 and digital wallets have become second nature, it's easy to assume that the humble ₹1 coin has faded into obscurity. But step away from Bengaluru's glitzy malls and tech parks, and you'll find a quiet, parallel economy—one where a single rupee still holds meaning, value, and even a little bit of magic.

Whether it's a shiny peppermint handed out with a smile, or a matchbox bought in a pinch, the ₹1 transaction lives on in the city's bustling markets, temple lanes, and tea stalls. It is not just about cost—it's about connection, culture, and continuity.

Places where ₹1 still speaks

Wander through the winding streets of KR Market or Shivajinagar, pause by a paan shop in Chickpet, or explore the bylanes of Basavanagudi, and you'll hear it: "Give me one toffee," "One matchbox," "One pin." It's a whisper of a bygone era still clinging on, defiantly simple in an age of inflation and excess.

"There's something poetic about what ₹1 can still get you," says Lokesh BK, a retired perfusionist from Banaswadi. "It reminds us that not every value is monetary. Some things are about rhythm, ritual, and routine."

Toffees & peppermints: Sweet change

In old grocery shops and corner tea stalls, glass jars of brightly wrapped toffees and peppermints await — not just for children, but for auto drivers, college students, and temple-goers. These little sweets are not just a treat; they're often a rounding-off gesture, a nostalgic token, or a tiny indulgence in the middle of a hectic day. They're also currency in their own right — handed over as change, gratitude, or quiet comfort.

Matchbox and ₹1 flame

A matchbox for ₹1 might seem insignificant, but its value is unmeasurable — lighting a diya, starting a stove during a power cut, or even just sparking a smoke break. "Sometimes people say, 'It's only a rupee' and forget to pay," laughs Ramesh, who runs a tea stall in Rajajinagar. "But for us, it adds up. Every rupee counts."

Peanuts & everyday hacks

From peanuts in newspaper cones to plastic covers offered hastily at the last minute, these little items keep the day moving. A paper cone of peanuts is not just a snack — it's a taste of childhood, a bite of Bengaluru's street life. A plastic cover isn't just a bag — it's a rescue plan when the rains catch you unprepared.

Bindi, kumkum & pins

At roadside tailoring carts and temple stalls, ₹1 gets you a single safety pin, a hair clip, or a sachet of vermilion (kumkum). It's the smallest unit of necessity — whether it's a student fixing a torn uniform or a devotee offering vibhuti on a Friday. "Women still ask for ₹1 vibhuti," says a temple vendor in Vasanth Nagar. "It's a tradition that change cannot touch."

Small luxuries

For many daily wage earners and domestic workers, the ₹1 shampoo sachet isn't just about hygiene — it's dignity. "Every Sunday, I buy one sachet and feel fresh for the week. That's my self-care," says Sunitha, a house help in Vasanth Nagar. And for a child who may not have a birthday cake, a single bright balloon brings joy that outweighs its cost.

Paper, press and pixels: Time stands still

While the world has moved to cloud storage and email, some college-area photocopy shops still offer single-page copies for ₹1. "Even for ₹1, they now use Google Pay!" says a shopkeeper near Mount Carmel College. Meanwhile, SMS still costs ₹1 on some old prepaid plans. For many, it brings memories of carefully crafted 160-character messages — a habit of thoughtfulness in communication. And postage stamps, rare as they are, still bear witness to the charm of handwritten letters.

Weight machines

At old market corners, mechanical weighing scales still exist — drop 1, step up, and discover your weight. It's more curiosity than fitness, a nostalgic ritual for many who grew up with it.

Coin that connects generations

"In the USA, it's hard to survive with just a dollar," says Poornima BL, now based in the States. "But in Bengaluru, ₹1 still has life. That's beautiful."

Indeed, the ₹1 coin isn't just a monetary unit—it's a cultural bookmark. It slips quietly into hands and hearts, carrying with it stories, memories, and everyday moments of care. So the next time you hear someone ask for a single toffee or a bindi or a balloon, pause. Behind that tiny transaction is a whole world of resilience, ritual, and remarkable value. Because in Bengaluru, even today — ₹1 still buys you a moment.

–Achala Nataraj

> **"There's something poetic about what ₹1 can still get you. It reminds us that not every value is monetary. Some things are about rhythm, ritual, and routine**
>
> –Lokesh BK, retired perfusionist

DUNG MATTER

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A group of researchers from the Centre for Applied Genetics, Department of Zoology at BU, say they have used an extract of elephant dung on cancerous cells, only to find that the cells stopped replicating within a short period.

"We used elephant dung extract after a bacterial growth inhibitor on cancer cells outside the human body. We found that replication stopped in a short period at a particular concentration of this extract," said Dr Somashekara Rajashekara, Centre for Applied Genetics at BU.

Dr Rajashekara says the study was conducted given the undesirable side effects of synthetic drugs and the current emphasis on using natural materials for disease control and treatment.

"The idea behind the study is to promote the use of native and indigenous ways to cure disease. There is a pressing need for extensive research on indigenous methods used to address health concerns in our country. We tested the medicinal properties of elephant dung against colon cancer, as it is one of the most common forms of cancer," said Dr Rajashekara.

Researchers obtained three elephant dung samples from Yalavanathe village near Kanakapura at different time intervals and dissolved the samples in methanol. Dust and undissolved material were then removed to obtain a clear solution, which contained 26 chemical compounds with antibacterial and cytotoxic effects.

More than 100 recognised chemicals found in the methanolic extracts made from the dung samples can be utilized to cure a variety of terrible diseases, including colon cancer.

According to Dr Rajashekara, the methanolic extracts made from elephant dung can provide antibacterial components for the food and pharmaceutical industries.

Asian elephants' food

Researchers say Asian elephants prefer to forage in dry and moist deciduous forests where there is an abundance of grass and bamboo and cooler temperatures to rest during the day. The animal feeds on 95–112 different plant species, but about 85% of the food intake accounts for 25 of these species. Their selective feeding is one factor leading to dung with high medicinal value.

"Being herbivores, Asian elephants can consume grasses, roots, leaves, twigs, fruits, and bark. In a day, they can consume up to 300 kg of food from plant species that are mostly rich in protein. This makes Asian elephants yield valuable medicinal animal products with anti-cancerous medication characteristics," added another researcher.

Asian elephants prefer to forage in dry and moist deciduous forests where there is an abundance of grass

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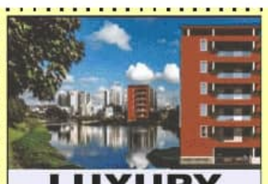

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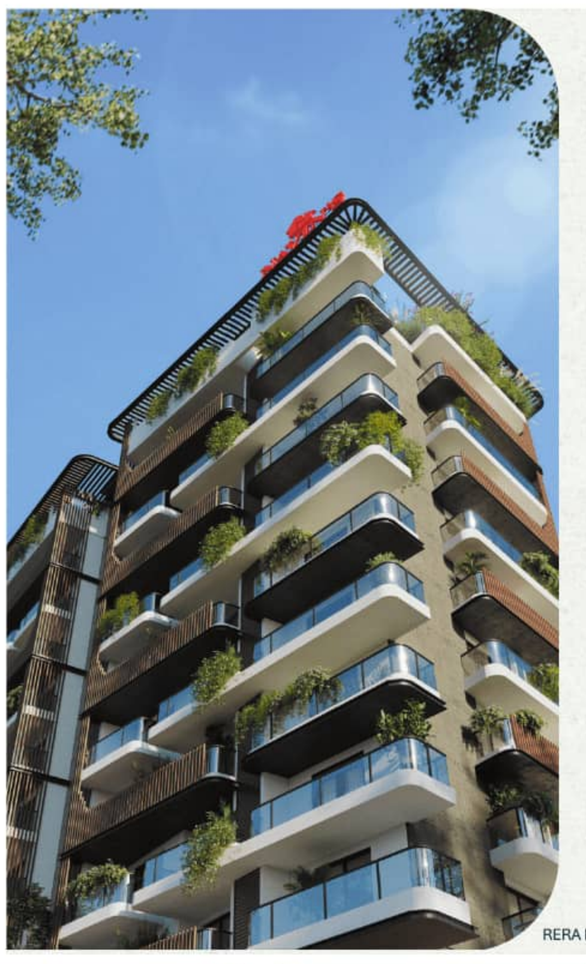

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PRASHANTH NAK HARI S/O Late Hari Thammaiah Aged About 48 Years R/At No.802, 7th Main, 1st Cross, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru-560008 have changed my name to PRASHANTH HARI vide affidavit dtd:01/08/2025 sworn before notary Uday Kumar K,B'luru.

I, Deepesh Dinanath Panicker, R/o G1943, Serene, Brigade Cornerstone Utopia, SH35, Varthur, Bengaluru 560087 have changed my son's name (minor) from Aarav to Aarav Deepesh Panicker.

I, Sampath S K s/o Kodandaramaiah, R/o No-170 1st Near water Tank 1st division Sarjapura Bengaluru-562125 have changed my name to Sampath for all Purposes.

I, Mahboob Jan W/o Siddiq Hussain R/o 42/43 New 20 2nd Cross Pampanagar Yeshwan - thpur Bengaluru - 560022 have changed my name to Mahaboob Jan for all purposes

I Nahida Tabassum B W/o Mohammed Javeed Basha R/o No 13 7th Cross Padarayana - pura Bangalore 560026 have changed my name to Nahida Tabassum for all Purposes

I, Sunehra Banu D/o Mohammed Ayub # FF01 Thanisandra Blr-77 have changed my name to Sunehra Banu Sherawala for all purposes.

I, Sunitha w/o Vijay Kumar C, R/o #14 3rd Main 4th Cross Anjaneya Nagar BSK 3rd Stage Bengaluru-560085 have changed my name to Sunitha R for all Purposes.

I, Sunara Taj W/o Javeed Pasha #ft no 5g Horamavu Blr-43 have changed my name to Sunera Taj for all purposes

I, Madhukar Subravaty R/o No. 26, Siri Hamsa Residency, Apts 302, 1st 'A' Main Rd, Vivekanandanagar, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore-560085 have changed my minor son's name from NIKSHAY MADHUKAR TO NIKSHAY MADHUKAR SUBRAVATY Vide Affidavit On 31st July 2025 Before Notary A Ganesh for all purposes

NAME change Notice: I, Dundavva Sinal, W/o Siddarudh Sinal, residing at Mal Siddeshwar Tota Hidakal Belgaum Karnataka 591220, have changed my name to Divya Sinal. Henceforth, I will be known as Divya Sinal for all purposes. All Concerned may note. Sd/- Divya Sinal

CHANGE OF NAME I, Santosh Venkatesh Kulkarni, residing at No. 266, 1st Main, 3rd Cross, KEB Layout, Ashwath Nagar, Bengaluru-560094, have changed my name to Santosh Kulkarni, vide affidavit dt: 02.08.2025 before notary Deepa M, B.lore, Hereafter, I shall be known as SANTOSH KULKARNI, for all purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **M GOVIND RAJ**, aged 54 years, residing at No. 48, 3rd Cross, Hanuman Badavane, Manorayana Palya, Sulthanpalya Main Road, RT Nagar Post, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560032. In My Son's **(Kanush.G)** Passport my name is entered as **Govinda Raj M** instead of **M GOVIND RAJ**. Same sworn before Ramegowda, Advocate & Notary, Bangarpet Taluk vide affidavit dated: 02/08/2025

Bennett & Coleman THE TIMES OF INDIA

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More power to city's solid waste management

2 new plants across 90 acres to sort out 6,000-tonne daily waste mess

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

With Bengaluru generating over 6,000 tonnes of waste every single day, the city's garbage problem is growing at an alarming pace — driven by its booming population, rapid urbanisation, and expanding consumption patterns.

To tackle this mounting crisis head-on, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) has floated tenders for two Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) plants under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.

These large-scale facilities—planned at Gollahalli (South) and Sakkare Gollahalli near Doddaballapur (North)—aim to bring scientific processing and long-term sustainability to the city's waste management system.

"The state has approved the purchase of 90 acres near Terra Firma in Doddaballapur, and land acquisition talks are underway. Tenders for both units have been floated to reshape the waste management scenario in Bengaluru," said K Harish Kumar, CEO, BSWML

Officials said that to ensure efficient waste processing, the city's eight BBMP zones and urban district have been divided into North and South packages. Gollahalli will cater to areas like Rajarajeshwarinagar, Mahadevapura, South and Bommanahalli, while Sakkare Gollahalli will serve Yelahanka, Dasarahalli, East, and West zones.

Why new units are crucial

Currently, BBMP generates 6,115 metric tonnes of waste daily. However, only 1,160 tonnes are being processed scientifically by the existing seven facilities, which have a capacity of 1,620 tonnes. The rest either ends up in landfills or remains untreated—exacerbating the waste crisis.

Cost and capacity

Gollahalli (South): Spread over 100 acres, the plant will process 2,999 tonnes of waste. It lies about 40 km from the service zones. The project involves ₹1,812 crore investment for processing infrastructure and secondary transfer vehicles. In the north, 90-acre private land Sakkare Gollahalli will host a 3,073-tonne capacity unit, costing ₹1,912 crore. Located 75 km from the assigned zones, the unit will be operated by the contractor for 30 years.

By 2030, Waste to Rise Beyond 8,000 Tonnes

Type of Waste	Projected Quantity (in tonnes)
Organic	3,638
Sanitary	73
Animal Waste	73
Dead Animals	7
Hazardous Waste	73
Debris	73
Dust and Silt	146
Construction Waste	73
Street Waste	870
Total	**8,161**

To support seamless logistics, BSWML has started constructing 30 primary transfer stations. So far, three are complete and four are underway. Tenders for the rest have been invited. The second-level transfer stations will be the contractor's responsibility as per the new tender terms.

Once the legal hurdle over household waste collection tenders is resolved, contractors will collect waste door-to-door and deliver it to transfer stations. From there, designated agencies will take it to the ISWM units. BSWML has fixed a tipping fee of ₹1,800 per tonne for this entire operation.

The city must never sleep

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the norm in Bengaluru. To put a curb on construction activities during the night, the Karnataka High Court, in 2012, passed an order stating that construction activities should not be allowed between 10 pm and 6 am. However, this rule appears to be blatantly violated across Bengaluru. Citizens from affected areas say the builders do not fear consequences and break this rule regularly.

Nighttime construction complaints have come in from Hosakerehalli, too. Residents say a private construction site in the area has been flouting construction rules since June 2023. Construction activities beyond 10 pm happen every few days, which is mentally taxing.

Police complaints are filed, officials issue warnings, but lessons are not learnt. Aggrieved citizens say this only demonstrates the utter lack of civic sense and mindfulness towards fellow citizens.

"Just last week, I had to warn the workers while they were working at 11.30 pm. There are sick and old people in the neighborhood who cannot heal or sleep due to this.

One of my neighbours moved out, unable to endure it. The owners and the contractors don't seem to learn or understand that it impacts the lives of their neighbours," said a resident from Hosakerehalli.

Some citizens from Sadashivnagar are facing similar issues. A resident from the area says that on a private plot, construction activities leading to loud noise sometimes begin as early as 6 am, causing inconvenience to senior citizens.

It is not just construction sites that are giving sleepless nights to Bengaluru residents. Some say heavy vehicles carrying construction material ply during night hours with horns blaring.

"While construction activities are going on in our area as well, loud noise at night is mostly vehicles with shrill horns, carrying construction material.

These vehicles continuously ply during night hours, use illegal shrill horns, and disturb our sleep. As per the Motor Vehicle Act, needless or continuous honking and use of shrill horns are punishable offences," said a resident from Gottigere.

As per the Central Pollution Control Board's (CPCB) specifications, the acceptable noise level (dB) in a silent zone during the day is 50 dB, and during the night is 40 dB. The permissible sound limits are 55 dB for the day and 45 dB during the night in the case of residential areas.

Experts say loud noise from construction sites beyond permissible decibels and during prohibited hours is illegal and a public nuisance.

Apart from filing a police complaint and approaching the state pollution control board, citizens can avail of a more independent, effective, and speedy remedy provided in Sections 152 to 163 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

Under these Sections, the district magistrate is empowered to pass a conditional order based on a complaint by a citizen.

"The noise or dust pollution from a construction site is a public nuisance, and if it continues after police warnings, legal action can be pursued, which is criminal and effective. However, the state pollution control board plays an important role in such complaints.

SPCBs can withdraw the consent of establishment and can also issue directions to power and water supply companies to disconnect supplies to the defaulting site.

Criminal case against such builders can be filed," said an environmental law expert.

2,558 rowdies in city as of 2025

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

allowed to roam free, they may continue their unlawful behaviour and disturb public peace.

In July, CCB had allegedly decided to cancel bail of more than 50 rowdy sheeters. CIty Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh explained, "This is part of our routine checks. We don't cancel bail without reason. Bail is revoked only if there's a likelihood of the person committing further crimes. For example, if we learn a rowdy sheeter is involved in a murder and there might be chances of committing another crime that appears pre-planned or linked to a rivalry, we examine the evidence and enquire before taking a decision. We also use software to track individuals out on bail, and all police stations have been instructed to regularly monitor their activities and act based on advisory reports."

Bengaluru police have been increasing their checks on rowdy sheeters over the years. According to police data, earlier officers had checked 3,097 rowdy sheeters, and before that, a total of 2,301 were checked. But this year alone, in just the past seven months, 2,847 rowdy sheeters have already been checked.

Police also conducted a surprise raid on houses of 216 rowdies in the city for two hours on July 21. Officials from 13 police stations had checked their movements, employment status and whether they are attending court proceedings or skipping summons.

According to data, Bengaluru has topped the state with the highest number of registered rowdies -- a total of 7,338 rowdies have been recorded over the past three years, which is over three times higher than Kalaburagi, the district with the second-highest count of 1,934. In 2025, there are 2,558 rowdy sheeters present in the city.

In response to the rising threat of rowdyism and its impact on law and order, the Karnataka Police have intensified their crackdown through strict measures across the state. Three key actions have been taken: invoking the Karnataka Control of Organised Crime Act (KCOCA), under which 11 cases have been registered from 2023 to 2025 involving 124 accused in Bengaluru; applying the Goonda Act in 32 cases over the past three years, affecting 142 individuals; and launching externment proceedings, with 11 such cases recorded in just the last seven months.

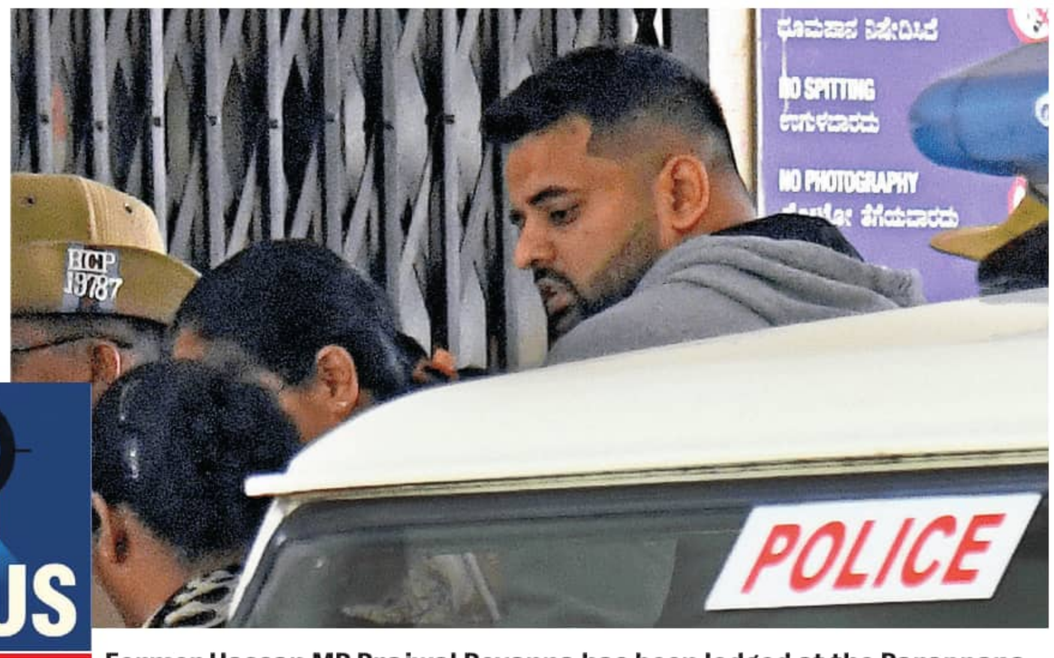
Additionally, police officials have executed 65 Non-Bailable Warrants (NBWs) this year, booked 764 cases under PAR (Preventive Action Report), registered two cases under the Arms Act, 13 petty cases, and five others under miscellaneous categories.

"Many rowdy sheeters get bail and then resume their criminal lifestyle. We are watching them closely. If we find even the slightest indication that they might indulge in rowdyism again, we will take strict action, including cancelling their bail," said a senior police officer.

Not for life, Prajwal sentenced for lifetime

Conviction under IPC, IT Act sections based on statements, testimony; key material evidence includes woman's clothes

In a landmark verdict, a Special Court in Bengaluru on Saturday sentenced former JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna to rigorous life imprisonment for the remainder of his natural life in a rape case involving a domestic help. The court also imposed a total fine of 10 lakh on the suspended leader from the JD(S) party. The judgment was delivered by Judge Santosh Gajanan Bhat of the Special Court for MPs and MLAs, a day after Revanna was convicted in one of the four sexual abuse and rape cases filed against him. The case pertains to a 48-year-old woman employed at the Gannikada farmhouse of the Revanna family in Holenarasipura, Hassan. The woman was allegedly raped twice in 2021—once at the farmhouse and theb at a residence in Bengaluru. According to the prosecution, the accused filmed the acts on his mobile phone without the victim's consent.



IN FOCUS
CONVICTED FOR RAPE

Former Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna has been lodged at the Parappana Agrahara Central Jail for the past 14 months

Accused breaks down

While Special Public Prosecutors Ashok Nayak and BN Jagadeesha sought the harshest sentence citing the gravity of the crime and digital evidence, the 34-year-old Revanna pleaded for leniency. Breaking down in the courtroom, he claimed he was being targeted due to his rapid rise in politics. "I have not seen my mother and father for six months... please give me a lesser sentence," he told the court. He further argued that none of the victims had voluntarily filed complaints and alleged they were prompted to do so just before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Evidence

The Special Investigation Team (SIT), which investigated the case, had submitted a 1,632-page chargesheet in September 2024, citing 113 witnesses. The prosecution relied on a combination of oral testimony, forensic reports, digital evidence, and the victim's statement. Key material evidence included the clothes worn by the victim during the assaults and explicit video recordings found on the accused's mobile device. "Despite a gap of three to four years, the IO succeeded in recovering the victim's clothing, strengthening the case," the prosecution said.

Sections of IPC Revanna is charged under include 376(2)(k): Rape by a person in a position of control or dominance; 376(2)(n): Repeated rape of the same woman.

Other cases pending trial

Holenarasipura Case: Sexual assault and harassment of a 47-year-old domestic worker. Prajwal's father, H.D. Revanna, is also named as an accused.

Case involving JD(S) Worker: Rape allegations by a JD(S) woman worker and former ZP member.

CID Case: Rape charges involving another domestic help. **–BMB**

Timeline: Case History

April 2024: Sexually explicit videos involving Prajwal surface and go viral

April 27: Prajwal flees to Germany

May 1: First FIR registered at Holenarasipura Police Station

First week of May: Three more rape cases filed

May 31: Arrested on arrival from Germany

Aug–Sept 2024: Chargesheets filed in four separate cases

July 2025: Trial concludes in the case involving domestic help

August 1, 2025: Prajwal declared guilty

INBRIEF

Site no. 9 at Dharmasthala: Exhumation resumes

Police stand guard as exhumation goes on at spot 9 near Netravathi bridge, Dharmasthala on Saturday

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the alleged mass burial case in Dharmasthala resumed exhumation on Saturday at the ninth site identified by the complainant, police said.
Officials reached the location adjacent to the Nethravathi riverbank along the Ujire-Dharmasthala-Kokkada state highway (SH-73) around 11.30 am, marking the fifth consecutive day of exhumation activity.
According to police sources, the SIT plans to exhumate four adjacent sites--numbered 9 to 12-- on Saturday, in the presence of the complainant. These sites are among the 15 locations pinpointed by the anonymous complainant-witness, who has claimed that he had buried multiple human bodies along the riverbank over several years.
Security has been tightened with Dakshina Kannada district police maintaining a protective cordon around the sites. A green fabric barricade has been erected to prevent unauthorised visual access, including from the media and general public. Traffic on the highway, however, continues to operate normally.
The SIT team, assisted by labourers, machinery operators, and mechanical grass-cutting tools, have begun the work at site No 9. **–PTI**

Suhas Shetty murder: NIA raids 18 locations

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday conducted extensive searches at 18 locations in various districts of Karnataka in the former Bajrang Dal member Suhas Shetty targeted killing case.
Shetty was publicly assaulted and brutally murdered by the accused Abdul Safwan and others using lethal weapons in the Bajpe area of Mangaluru City in May this year.
NIA said the killing was intended to spread terror in the society.
NIA, which took over the case from the local police in June, searched the residences of the 12 arrested individuals and various suspects in the case on Saturday.
The searches, carried out in the districts of Mangaluru, Chikkamagaluru and Hassan, led to the seizure of various digital devices, including 11 mobile phones, 13 SIM cards and eight memory cards, along with other incriminating documents, said the anti-terror agency. **–ANI**

Land use conflicts flagged at investors' meet

Investors in Karnataka have raised concerns over growing conflicts related to land use for industrial purposes, Amardeep Singh Bhatia, secretary, DPIIT, said on Saturday. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, formulates and implements policies to drive industrial growth in India.
Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the 'Viksit Bharat-2047' Investors' Roundtable Conference held in Bengaluru, Bhatia said the Karnataka government was already working to address these issues. "We will also do whatever is necessary to improve the condition," he added.
He said stakeholders had also highlighted the need for improvements in the single-window clearance system and called for better infrastructure in existing industrial zones, including effluent treatment plants.
The conference brought together senior policymakers, government officials, and business leaders to discuss strategies for transformative industrial growth. **–PTI**

HEALTH TIP: Regular consumption of walnuts can improve memory, reduce stress, and support heart health

Peanuts are high in protein, folate, and niacin, making them great for muscle building and brain development

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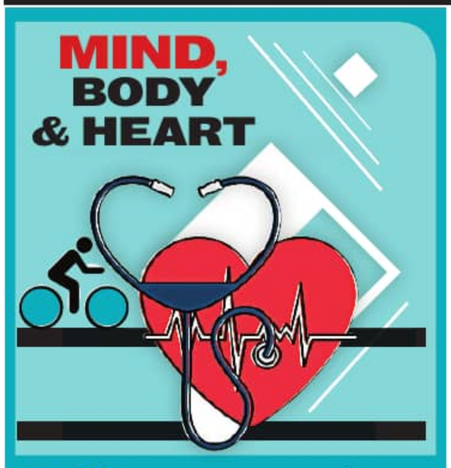


All you need to know about...

Newborn's routine

Newborn sleep pattern

"Newborns typically sleep between 14 to 17 hours a day, but this occurs in short bursts of 2 to 4 hours," explains Dr Haridharshan G J, MBBS, MD Pediatrics, Fellowship in Neonatology, Apollo Cradle & Children's Hospital, Bangalore-Electronic City. Each sleep cycle lasts only around 50 minutes and toggles between active (REM) and quiet (non-REM) sleep.

Due to frequent hunger and an immature circadian rhythm, newborns wake often. "The internal body clock that helps differentiate day from night starts to mature around 6 to 8 weeks," says Dr Haridharshan. This is when a more consistent sleep structure may start to emerge.

When and how to begin a sleep routine

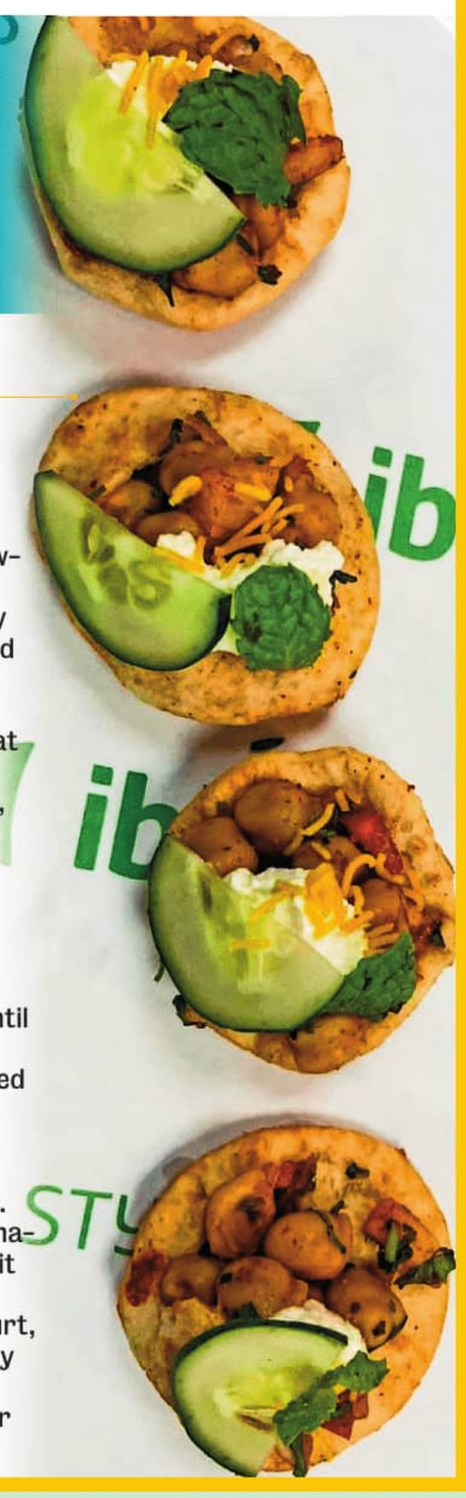
While there is no need for a hard and fast rule, setting up routines does help in regularising as they grow. "You can begin a simple bedtime routine around 6 to 8 weeks, as babies begin to respond to patterns and cues," advises Dr Haridharshan. Giving them a warm bath, keeping the rooms in gentle lighting, playing soft lullabies, and cuddles can gradually teach babies it's time to sleep. "During the day, keep the environment bright and interactive. At night, lower the lights and minimise interaction, even during feeds," he suggests.

It's also important to watch for sleep cues. "Don't wait until the baby is overtired. Yawning, rubbing eyes, and fussiness are signs they're ready for rest," says Dr Haridharshan. Placing the baby down at the first signs of sleepiness helps them learn to fall asleep independently.

–Femina

Chef's kiss

Everybody deserves a meal that pampers their taste buds — and these recipes will do just that



CHOLE BHATURE BOMBS

INGREDIENTS:

For The Bhatura Dough
- All-purpose flour (Maida) 500 gms
- Semolina 50 gms
- Yogurt 150 gms
- Baking powder 5 gms
- Sugar 10 gms
- Salt To Taste
- Oil 15 gms
- Warm water 180 ml approx. for a Soft Dough
- Oil for frying As needed

INGREDIENTS

For the Chatpate Chole
- Chole – (Boiled) 200 gms
- Onion (finely chopped) 1 medium
- Tomato (finely chopped) 1 medium
- Green chili (finely chopped) 1 pc
- Fresh coriander leaves 40 gms
- Chaat masala 1 tsp
- Chilli Powder 2 tsp
- Lemon juice 1 tbsp
- Salt To taste
- Mint and Tamarind Chutney For Garnish
- Yoghurt – For garnish
- Sev – For Garnish

METHOD: For Bhatura Dough
- In a large bowl, combine flour, semolina, baking powder, sugar, and salt.
- Mix in yogurt and oil slowly add warm water and knead into a soft, smooth dough.
- Cover with a damp cloth and let it rest for 4 hours at room temperature.
- Divide into equal portions, roll into small discs, and deep-fry in hot oil until puffed and golden.

METHOD: For Chatpate Chole
- Cook chole with Bayleaf until soft and flavorful.
- then Mix chole with chopped onion, tomato, green chili, coriander, chaat masala, lemon juice, and salt.
- Crispy fry small bhatura's.
- Make a small slit in each bhature from the top and top it with the chole mixture.
- Top it with drizzle of yoghurt, tamarind and mint chutney for the presentation.
- Garnish it with a Coriander sprig and serve it warm.

CORN CRUSTED NUTELLA STUFFED FRENCH TOAST

INGREDIENTS:

Quantity (for 4-6 servings)
- Bread slices (thick and freshly cut from sandwich bread) 8 slices
- Nutella 100 grams
- Cornflakes (crushed) 100 grams
- Eggs 2 no's
- Milk 100 ml
- Sugar 15 grams
- Vanilla extract 1 tsp
- Butter (for frying) 30 grams
- Chocolate sauce (for serving) topping
- Mint leaves for garnish

METHOD:
- Cut bread with round cutter and Spread Nutella on 4 slices of bread and cover with the remaining 4 slices to make sandwiches.
- In a separate bowl, whisk eggs, milk, sugar, and vanilla extract to make the batter.
- Crush cornflakes and spread them on a plate.
- Dip each Nutella sandwich in the batter, then coat with crushed cornflakes.
- Heat butter in a pan and cook each corn crusted stuffed toasts until golden brown and crispy on both sides.
- Slice and serve warm with a drizzle of chocolate sauce.

PANCETTA WRAPPED TURKEY ROULADE WITH WILD MUSHROOMS, MINT-ORANGE GLAZE

INGREDIENTS:
- Turkey (Skinless Breasts- 2 numbers) 300 gms
- Olive Oil 20 ml
- Shallot 60 gms
- Pancetta Strips (for wrapping) 30 gms
- Juniper Berries 5gms
- Baby Spinach Leaves 5 gms
- Rosemary 2 gms
- Cheese Cheddar 15 gms
- Italian Parsley 10 gms
- Shitake (soaked and chopped) 10 gms
- Button Mushrooms (chopped) 10 gms
- Enoki Mushrooms chopped 10 gms

INGREDIENTS- SAUCE
- White Wine 20 gms
- Olive Oil 30 gms
- Bay leaves 1 no's
- Orange Segments- seedless 150 gms
- Carrots 30 gms
- Celery 10 gms
- Mint leaves 15 gms
- Sea Salt 5gms
- Black Pepper 5 gms
- Butter Unsalted 15 gms
- Cinnamon and Cardamom powder 2 gms
- Fresh Cream 10 ml
- Haricot beans (for side dish) 100 gms

METHODS OF PREPARATION

TURKEY ROULADE WITH WILD MUSHROOMS
- Make a Stuffing of Turkey – In a cooking pot Add olive oil shallot, garlic, Mixed Mushrooms.
- Cook mixture well on fierce heat until all the water is evaporated and mushrooms are tender.
- Add juniper berries to the mixture, season it well and finish mixture with parsley and rosemary.
- Stirring from all sides and once cold add cheese to the mixture and keep aside.

PANCETTA WRAPPED TURKEY BREAST
- Butterfly Turkey breasts crosswise, being sure not to cut all the way through. Place a piece of plastic wrap over one open breast, and pound to a bigger size. Season with salt and pepper. Repeat with remaining breast. Keep your turkey to be uniform in thickness, so it will be easier to roll.
- Layer the pancetta strips, keep Flattened Turkey breast over the Pancetta Strips.
- Pat the turkey breast dry, sprinkle Mushrooms and cheese Mixture along with spinach leaves evenly over the breast and begin to roll up tightly like a roll. Secure the roll with kitchen twine. Repeat with the second breast.
- Poach the pancetta wrapped Turkey Roulade in water for 12 minutes. Once Done, Keep Aside.

MINT-ORANGE GLAZE
- Add Olive oil, Bayleaf, White wine, Carrots, Celery, Orange segments.
- Cook until orange and vegetables are soft. Add torn mint with cardamom, cinnamon powder.
- Cool the mixture, Discard Bay leaf and Blend mixture along with fresh cream until smooth texture.
- Strain the sauce and heat orange mint glaze and finish with cold butter.

PLATING
- Pan sear the cooked Roulade and finish it in oven for 5 minutes so Turkey Roll is heat through and cooked tender.
- Pour the orange sauce in middle of the plate, keep Roulade slices on it and Garnish it with caramelized Orange and serve it with buttered green beans and pumpkin mash.

Recipes by Gaurav Bansal, Head Chef, ibis Styles Mysuru

SRK takes a bow Shah Rukh Khan took to Insta to express his joy and gratitude at having bagged the National Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role for his performance in 'Jawan'

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JUST GOOD CINEMA

Genelia on working in the South, changing narratives, evolving roles

After over a decade of stepping back from the spotlight to focus on family life, Genelia Deshmukh is embracing a new chapter. The actress, who was recently seen in Sitaare Zameen Par, opened up the role of South cinema in shaping her career.

Genelia, who made her film debut in 2003 with Tujhe Meri Kasam, did South films from the early days of her career. About the current pan-India trend, she says, "I don't know why it took so long. I did it very early in my career, and I did it with pride. I just wanted to do good films; it was never about pitching one above the other. Earlier, the perception was that Bollywood dropouts make it big in the South. I've done some of my best work there. I thought my first film would be my last, and then I would take up a 9-5 job. But then I got a lot of work in the South and started falling in love with acting because of South cinema."

The actress is hopeful the industry keeps pace with changing narratives and embraces more mature female characters. She says, "I wish we would write more stories about women who are in their 30s, 40s or 50s. There are so many dynamics to that, which is interesting. Love stories aren't just for the young. Why isn't there a love story of a 30-year-old girl or a single mother? Love doesn't happen only when you are in college. I think you bring nuances to the screen when you actually live it. Which is why I say that actors should be cast as per the demand of the role and not because of their Instagram following or because they are number one, two or three."

–ETimes

Matter of taste

Actor, producer and former White ouse staffer Kal Penn has come forward in support of Priyanka Chopra after her recent food preference stirred an unexpected online debate. The drama began when Priyanka, during a red carpet interview at the premiere of her film 'Heads of State', picked hot dogs over the beloved Mumbai street snack, vada pav.

While many fans were amused, others expressed their disappointment at her choice, with some even accusing her of turning her back on Indian street food. But Kal Penn, known for his roles in 'Harold & Kumar' and 'Designated Survivor', had a simple question in response to the criticism, "Are people not allowed to like other things?"

Speaking to Indian Express, Kal admitted that he hadn't seen exactly what Priyanka said, but he opened up about facing similar moments. He recalled being on MasterChef, where the judges were surprised when he said his favourite food was tacos "They were clearly disappointed, and then they asked me whether I could cook something like chicken tikka masala or something Indian. I told them straight away no, and they asked me, 'Do you not like Indian food?' I told them I loved Indian food, and I had even planned on cooking one of my mother's recipes on the show, but now I am definitely not going to do it," Kal shared.

–ETimes

Liam Neeson on 'Taken': Feels like a lifetime ago

Hollywood star Liam Neeson said that the first "Taken" film released in 2008 and feels like a "lifetime ago". He feels that he is getting too old to feature in action movies after becoming renowned for parts in the genre.

He says that he doesn't want to "insult" viewers by taking on parts that are unsuitable for his age.

In an interview with Variety, Neeson said: "The first Taken was 18 years ago, I was 54. Feels like a lifetime ago. I still get offered the occasional one. But I'm 73… I don't want to insult audiences if they're watching whole fight scenes and it's not me. I just wouldn't do it."

"Up until recently, I liked doing my own fight stuff. But I don't want to be doing that stuff with a Zimmer frame or walking stick. Sure, there might be another out there, but nothing definite on the horizon," reports femalefirst.co.uk.

Neeson stars in The Naked Gun as Frank Drebin Jr, the son of the late Leslie Nielsen's hapless detective in the original movies. He shared that he did not rewatch the previous flicks after taking the lead role in Akiva Schaffer's legacy sequel. He said: "No, I just trusted the script. And knew it would get better the more they worked on it. Akiva was the co-writer but there was always another writer on set - a friend of Akiva's obviously - and they would supply alternate endings to scenes. Try this, try that."

Liam and his co-star Pamela Anderson have been at the centre of romance rumours during the promotion of the film.

–IANS

KOTHALAVADI (KANNADA)
3.0 RATING ★★★★★
- **DIRECTOR** Sriraj
- **ACTORS** Prithvi Ambaar, Kavya Shaiva, Gopal Krishna Deshpande, Rajesh Nataranga, Avinash, Bala Rajwadi, Mansi Sudhir, Raghu Ramanakoppa, and Chetan Gandarva.
- **Duration** 144 minutes
- **Certification** UA

Tale of hapless villagers vs. sand mafia

Director Sriraj debuts as an independent director in Sandalwood with this movie. And an apt subject he has chosen too -- the story showcases the plight of villagers and also conveys a message on the importance of preserving the environment. The director has succeeded in conveying the ill-effects of sand mining. The specialty of the movie is that Prithvi Ambaar, who is known for romantic roles, has played a hero that appeals to the masses.

The movie begins with a team of police led by police inspector (Bala Rajwadi) from Terakanambi Police Station visiting a sand dredging location near Kothalavadi on the banks of Cauvery River. The inspector orders his team to damage the equipment used for dredging. While the police are on the task, one person attacks them. Superintendent of Police Parashuram (Rajesh Nataranga) visits the hospital and motivates the policemen, who are undergoing treatment for injuries. At this juncture, Parashuram meets Commissioner Ananta Padmanabha (Avinash) and tells him the story of Mohana (Prithvi Ambaar), a labour contractor, who attacked the policemen. The SP also reveals how the villagers mortgaged their agricultural land to Lagori Babu (Chetan Gandarva), a vicious and greedy money lender. He narrates how Ramesh Babu aka Gujari Babu (Gopal Krishna Deshpande) misguides villagers on national resources. You have to watch the movie to know what happens to the people of Kothalavadi and Mohana.

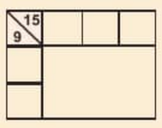
Prithvi Ambaar, as a mass hero, is convincing. He is very good in action scenes. Gopala Krishna Deshpande walks away with all honours for his sterling performance. He is convincing as a cunning scrap dealer who becomes an MLA. His dialogue delivery and gestures when he meets Mansi Sudhir are good. Kavya Shaiva, Manasi Sudhir, Avinash, Rajesh Nataranga provide good support. Cinematographer Karthik has done a good job and background music by Abhinandan Kashyap is good.

The problem with this film is that it tries to pack in too many elements – environment, politics, emotions, poverty, and violence. A few scenes, including one in which a team of policemen is attacked by one person and another where a Superintendent of Police is seen pillion riding on a bike with the hero, are difficult to digest. But on the whole, the movie is worth a watch.

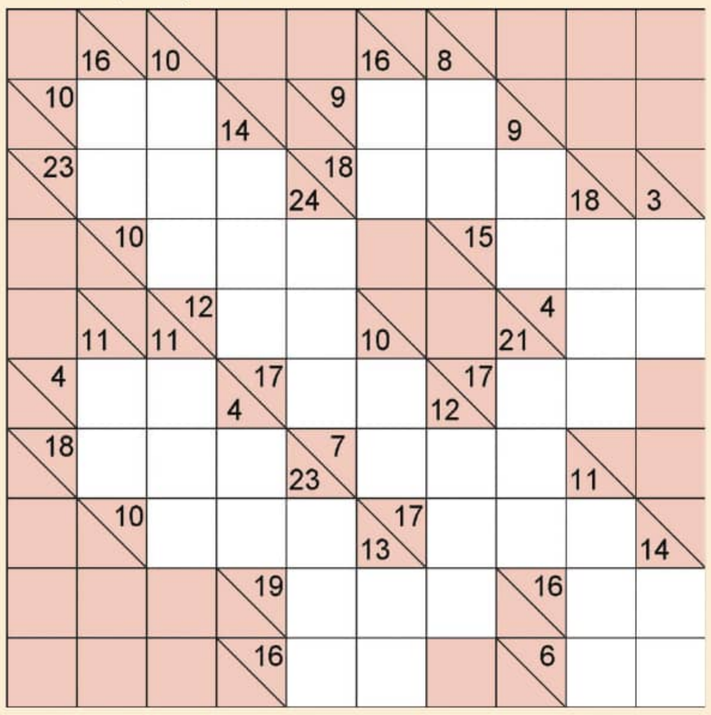
–Y Maheswara Reddy

Kakuro

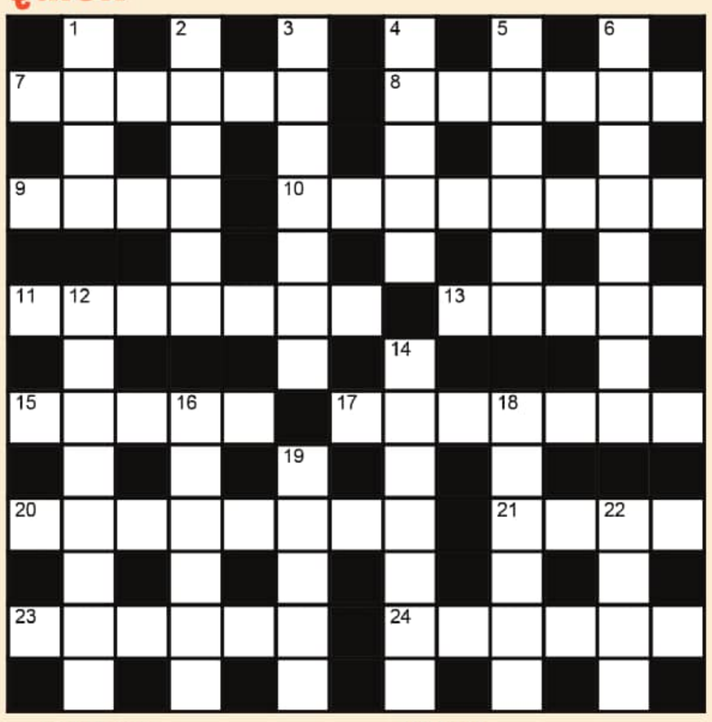
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Rhythm instrument (6)
8 Lacking substance (6)
9 Indian queen (4)
10 Vulnerability (8)
11 Talk or chatter with (7)
13 Cunningly (5)
15 Prefix for straight or right (5)
17 Most profound (7)
20 Exploding; turning bad (5,3)
21 Accomplished (4)
23 Beer glasses (6)
24 Thick pieces or lumps (6)

DOWN

1 Tomb Raider's ___ Croft (4)
2 Surface crust on antique vase (6)
3 Stop me pouring (3,4)
4 An unforeseen obstacle (1,4)
5 Hello singer ___ Ritchie (6)
6 Makes a shrill, clear musical sound (8)
12 Heathrow, La Guardia, etc (8)
14 Flawless (7)
16 Tennis star Martina ___ (6)
18 Capital of the Czech Republic (6)
19 Superlatively bad? (5)
22 Chamarajpet has a church dedicated to this saint (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Q EQUALS Y

SL QPV'GR ZPSIZ EP UR WGHXQ, QPV YHFR EP ZRE THSA LPG SE PG RNMR QPV'GR ZPSIZ EP UR NPWCRA VT.

Linemaro

Do you have a jersey? Because I need your name and number

Mindchow

With most people, disbelief in a thing is founded on a blind belief in some other thing

Joke of the day

I remember when Grandpa's memories started to go; it was the day I caught him urinating with the door open... which is not a huge deal, but it's annoying when I'm trying to drive

Loop

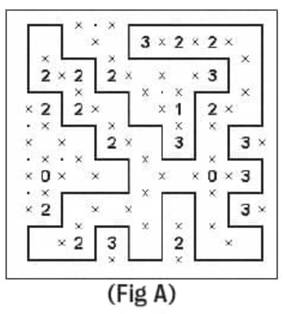
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

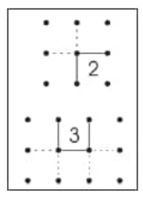
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

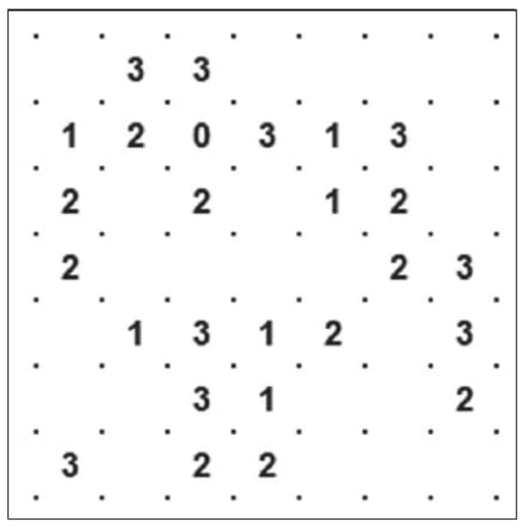
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



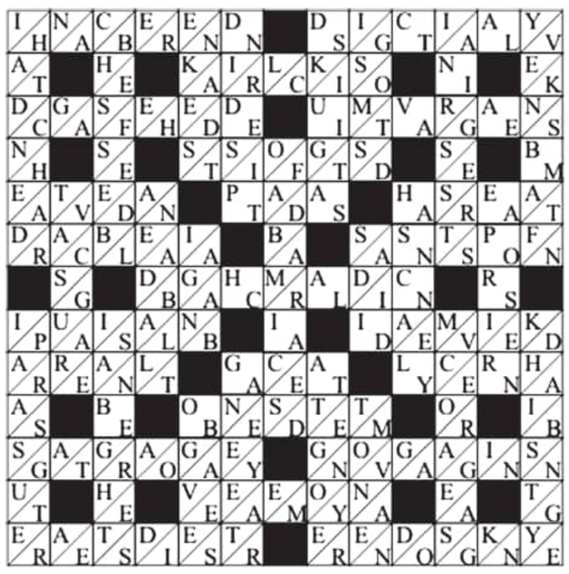
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



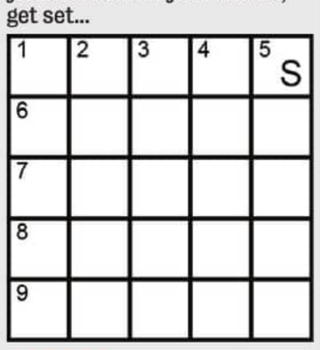
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

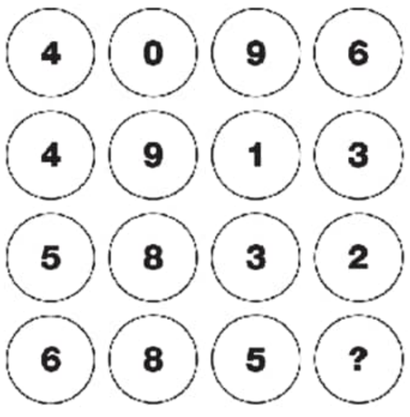
1 Darts; 6 Hi tab; 7 Us kea; 8 C came; 9 Libra

DOWN

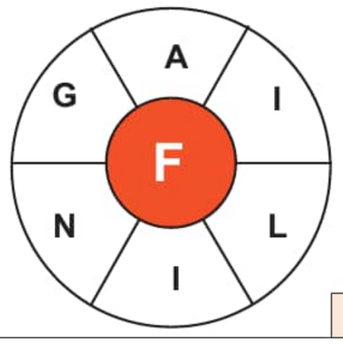
1 But HM; 2 K rear; 3 Caaba; 4 Sic id; 5 Slate

Mensapuzzle

What is missing from the last circle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; **06** Good; **08** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

3					9			5
						7		
		4	7	3			8	9
	6			8		4	5	2
	7						1	
2	4	3		5			9	
9	8			7	1	2		
		5						
7			9					1

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 23

4 5 7 7

Medium = 6

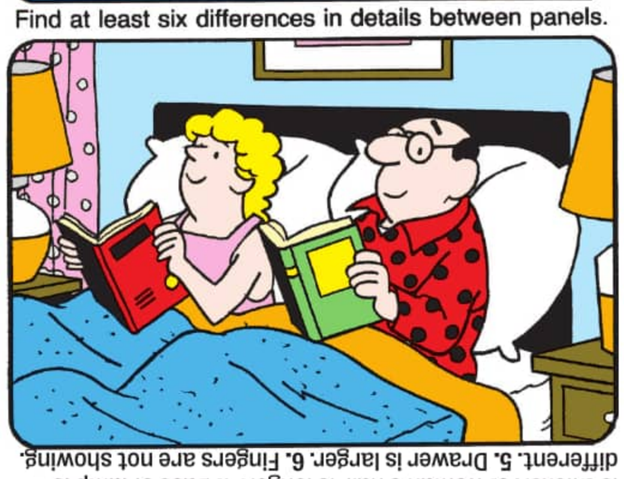
3 4 7 7

Hard = 16

2 3 3 8

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



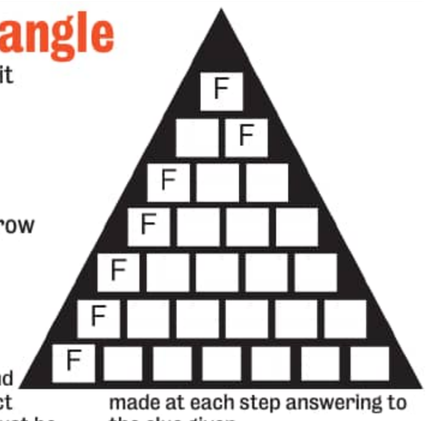
Differences: 1. Book cover is different. **2.** Mattress is thicker. **3.** Woman's hair is longer. **4.** Base of lamp is different. **5.** Drawer is larger. **6.** Fingers are not showing.

Riddler

Unscramble the words below, then take the letters from each word as instructed to form another word that is the answer to this teaser: LIUQA Take letters **1 & 2**; PDIET Take letters **1,2 & 4**; ETRSO Take letters **1 & 4**; DONU Take letters **1 & 4**; Unscramble the letters you collected... what do you get?

Alpha triangle

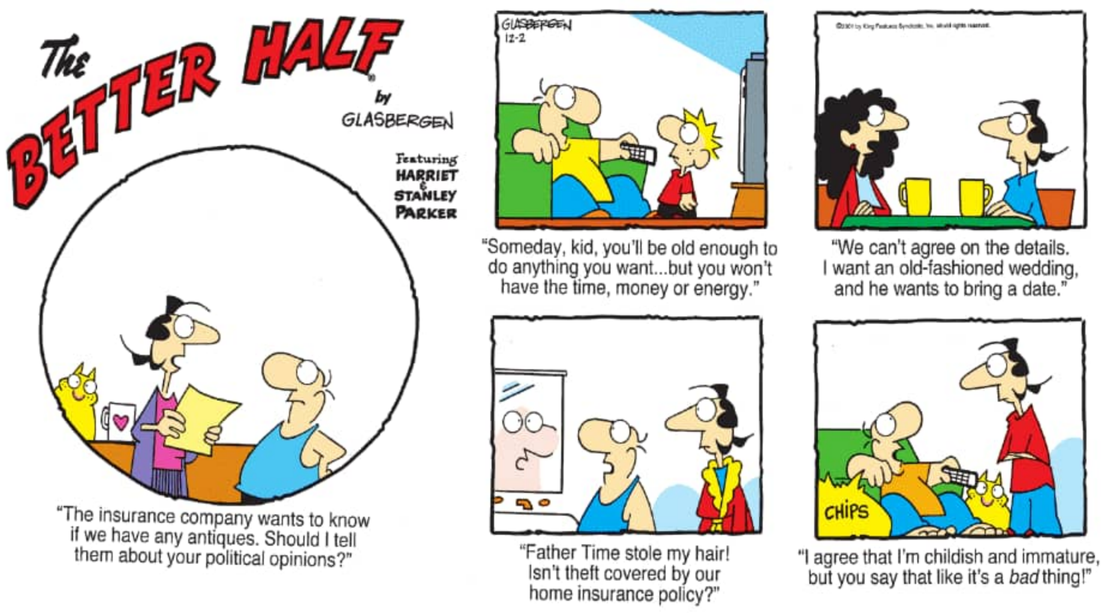
1 Degree Fahrenheit
2 Preposition
3 Away or back
4 River crossing
5 Palm leaf
6 More doting
7 Wrinkled one's brow



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
"The insurance company wants to know if we have any antiques. Should I tell them about your political opinions?"
GLASBERGEN 12-2
"Someday, kid, you'll be old enough to do anything you want...but you won't have the time, money or energy."
"We can't agree on the details. I want an old-fashioned wedding, and he wants to bring a date."
"Father Time stole my hair! Isn't theft covered by our home insurance policy?"
CHIPS
"I agree that I'm childish and immature, but you say that like it's a bad thing!"

THE STORY SO FAR...
FLASH AND HIS COMPANIONS ARE ATTACKED!
KA-TAOOM!
FLASH FIRES AT THE CREATURE, ALLOWING DALE AND ZARKOV TO ESCAPE.
PURSUED BY THE CREATURE, HE'S CORNERED!
IN THE DISTANCE, HAWKMEN ARE SIGHTED...
BUT CAN THEY MAKE IT IN TIME TO SAVE FLASH?!
FLASH GORDON
BY JIM KEEFE 8-13
AS THE HAWKMEN RACE TO RESCUE FLASH, THE CREATURE ATTACKS!
TRAPPED...
OUT OF AMMO...
ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO!
CRACK!
SNAP!
KRAK!
NICE CATCH!
NEXT
HAWKWOMEN OF MONGO!

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

The Moon's blessings bring relief from recent chaos. Delayed tasks may now progress, and your hard work is likely to be rewarded. Business gains could boost your savings. You might spend on art or literature and may even start planning international travel.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Low energy and health concerns may disrupt both personal and professional life. Your spouse's health could also be a source of concern. Ongoing projects might stall, and it's wise to avoid new business investments. Students should stay focused and grounded in their studies.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

A busy day at work awaits, with new income sources potentially strengthening your financial standing. You may find inspiration in art, film, or fashion, enhancing your creativity. Romantic relationships may grow stronger. Students will make progress toward career goals.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Thanks to the Moon's blessings, you'll feel physically better and may recover from recent health concerns. Stuck funds could be recovered. You might consider a loan for luxury items. You'll also be able to outmanoeuvre rivals and competitors effectively.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Low energy and laziness may distract you from your responsibilities. Impatience and lack of focus could hurt your productivity. Avoid asset investments today. Health concerns related to your spouse or children may arise. Couples should avoid arguments. Students need to concentrate on their studies.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

Negative vibes may dominate the day, leading to restlessness. Avoid unnecessary spending and try to manage your expectations of others. Trust your intuition when making major decisions to prevent disappointment.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Elders' blessings may bring success. You'll execute business plans effectively with the support of your team. Social or family events may help expand your network. A short business trip could be fruitful. Disputes with siblings are likely to be resolved.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

A financially favourable day—returns from past investments may come through. You'll likely cut back on unnecessary expenses, boosting your savings. Romantic partners should communicate calmly to avoid misunderstandings or conflict.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

The Moon energizes you today. You'll enjoy your work and may start planning a new project with attention to detail. Job seekers could receive good news. Love birds should avoid trivial arguments to maintain harmony.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Disappointment may affect your mood. Arrogance or careless speech could lead to unnecessary conflict or loss. Romantic partners are advised to speak thoughtfully to prevent tension or a breakup.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

The Moon supports you with new income opportunities. Past investments may begin yielding profits, helping to recover from prior losses. Your financial position improves. Health concerns related to parents may ease today.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

A productive and positive day lies ahead. Recognition from superiors could bring a promotion or new responsibilities. Rivals will likely be subdued. Singles and couples may make serious commitments regarding marriage, with support from friends or family.

KIDZONE

Deena Gowri Lobo, Bngaluru

Disha Ann Lobo, Bengaluru

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Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
√729 = 27; 27 + 22 = 49;
√49 = 7; 7 + 57 = 64;
√64 = 8; 8 * 8 = 64;
√64 = 8

BULL'S EYE
fall, FAILING, fang, filling, final, finial, flag, fling

STRIKE OUT

I	N	B	R	E	D	■	S	I	C	I	L	Y
T	■	E	■	K	I	C	K	S	■	N	■	E
C	A	S	H	E	D	■	I	M	A	G	E	S
H	■	S	■	S	I	F	T	S	■	E	■	M
E	V	E	N	■	T	A	S	■	A	S	E	A
D	A	L	A	I	■	B	■	A	N	T	O	N
■	G	■	B	A	H	R	A	I	N	■	S	■
P	U	S	A	N	■	I	■	D	A	V	I	D
R	E	A	L	■	A	C	T	■	L	E	N	A
A	■	B	■	O	N	S	E	T	■	R	■	I
G	A	R	A	G	E	■	N	O	G	G	I	N
U	■	E	■	E	A	M	O	N	■	E	■	T
A	R	A	G	E	■	N	O	G	G	I	N	■
E	A	S	I	E	R	■	R	E	D	S	K	Y

FAST FIVE

T	R	A	D	S
H	A	B	I	T
U	K	A	S	E
M	E	C	C	A
B	R	A	I	L

RIDDLER LIUQA Take letters 1 & 2 – QUAIL, take Q,U, PDIET Take letters 1,2 & 4 – TEPID, take T,E,I, ETRSO Take letters 1 & 4 – STORE, take S,R, DONU Take letters 1 & 4 – UNDO, take U,O, Unscramble the above to get 'Turquoise'.

QUICK

■	S	■	S	■	T	■	T	■	E	■
S	T	E	I	N	S	■	N	U	N	K	S
■	R	■	G	■	R	■	E	■	G	■	U	■
G	O	I	N	G	O	F	F	A	B	L	E	■
■	P	■	I	■	W	■	R	■	R	■	■	■
O	R	T	H	O	■	D	E	E	P	E	S	T
■	I	■	N	■	P	■	■	■	E	■	■	■
P	A	L	A	V	E	R	■	S	L	Y	L	Y
■	N	■	H	■	G	■	E	■	T	■	■	■
R	A	N	I	■	W	E	A	K	N	E	S	S
■	R	■	T	■	Y	■	N	■	O	■	I	■
M	A	R	A	C	A	■	S	L	I	G	H	T
L	■	P	■	S	■	A	■	L	■	W	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
9. Reading each row as a 4 digit number, from top to bottom, rows follow the sequence of Cube Numbers from 16 to 19.

QUOTE UNCODE
If you're going to be crazy, you have to get paid for it or else you're going to be locked up.

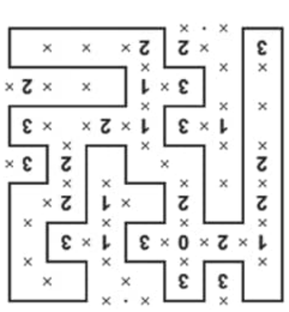
SUDOKU

3	2	7	8	1	9	6	4	5
8	9	1	4	6	5	7	2	3
6	5	4	7	3	2	1	8	9
1	6	9	3	8	7	4	5	2
5	7	8	2	9	4	3	1	6
2	4	3	1	5	6	8	9	7
9	8	6	5	7	1	2	3	4
4	1	5	6	2	3	9	7	8
7	3	2	9	4	8	5	6	1

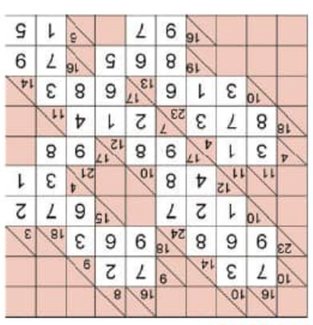
ALPHA TRIANGLE
F, Of, Fro, Ford, frond, Fonder, frowned.

GO FIGURE
7 + 5 + 4 + 7 = 23
Medium
4 + 7 + 7 / 3 = 6
Hard
3 + 8 – 3 x 2 = 16

LOOP



KAKURO



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